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RELEASED IN FULL

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ACTION EUR-00

INFO	LOG-00	COPY-01	ADS-00	INR-10	SS-00	CIAE-00	DODE-00
	H-01	NSCE-00	NSAE-00	HA-09	L-03	TRSE-00	PM-10
	PA-01	OMB-01	INRE-00	USIE-00	SP-02	SNP-01	C-01
	PRS-01	DS-01	DSE-00	P-02	T-01	/045 W	
						-----336422 161838Z /43	

R 161440Z JUN 87
 FM AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
 TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8857
 INFO USIA WASHDC 4570
 EASTERN EUROPEAN POSTS
 AMCONSUL MUNICH
 USMISSION USNATO
 ZEN MOSCOW/POUCH
 AMEMBASSY VIENNA

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUDAPEST 05754

USIA FOR EU:SMITH

MUNICH FOR RFE

VIENNA FOR USDELCSC

E.O. 12356:DECL:OADR

TAGS: PREL, SCOM, GC, BZ, HU

SUBJECT: HUNGARIAN TV COVERAGE OF RIOTS IN EAST BERLIN

REF: EMBBERLIN 2179

1. CONFIDENTIAL - ENTIRE TEXT.

SUMMARY:

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2. HUNGARIAN TV HAS CARRIED SURPRISINGLY ACCURATE
 COVERAGE OF THE UNREST IN EAST BERLIN DURING ROCK
 CONCERTS IN WEST BERLIN AND OF THE PRESIDENT'S
 SPEECH AT THE WALL. FOOTAGE INCLUDED THE PRESIDENT'S

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APPEAL TO GORBACHEV TO TEAR DOWN THE WALL. A DISSIDENT CONTACT COMMENTED THAT THE GOH FEELS IT HAS LATITUDE FROM MOSCOW TO NEEDLE THE OLD FOGIES IN PRAGUE AND BERLIN. A CC CONTACT POINTEDLY OMITTED BOTH THOSE TWO FROM HIS LIST OF "REFORMING" SOCIALIST STATES NOW WORKING TOGETHER.

END SUMMARY

3. DURING THE EVENING NEWS ON 10 JUNE MTV CHANNEL 1 CARRIED WHAT WAS OBVIOUSLY WESTERN FOOTAGE OF YOUTHS SCUFFLING WITH POLICE IN EAST BERLIN, ALONG WITH STRAIGHTFORWARD REPORTING ON THE THREE SUCCESSIVE NIGHTS OF CONCERTS. THE PRESTIGIOUS SUNDAY WEEKLY WRAP-UP TV PROGRAM "A HET" ON 14 JUNE CARRIED FOOTAGE OF THE PRESIDENT'S SPEECH AT THE BRANDENBURG GATE. THE BRIEF REPORT INCLUDED REAGAN'S CALL ON GORBACHEV TO TEAR DOWN THE WALL.

4. A HUNGARIAN DISSIDENT CONTACT EXPLAINED THIS STRANGE NEW TV "GLASNOST" BY COMMENTING THAT THE GOH BELIEVES IT HAS SUPPORT FROM GORBACHEV FOR ANY SWIPES IT MAY TAKE AT THE AGING LEADERSHIP IN BOTH BERLIN AND PRAGUE.

COMMENT:
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5. UNTIL RECENTLY, THE GOH HAS ADHERED FAITHFULLY TO AN EAST BLOC RULE THAT ONLY EVENTS ALREADY REPORTED IN THE COUNTRY WHERE THEY OCCURRED WERE FAIR GAME FOR THE OFFICIAL MEDIA. ALTHOUGH TECHNICALLY IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE RULE ON THESE OCCASIONS, HUNGARIAN TV HAS CERTAINLY NOT REPORTED THE BERLIN EVENTS IN THE SPIRIT OF OTHER EAST BLOC COVERAGE, ESPECIALLY GIVEN THE DENIALS COMING OUT OF EAST BERLIN, AND THE SHARP REACTION TO REAGAN'S SPEECH FROM BOTH THE GDR AND MOSCOW.

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